

Dear Honorable Members of the Environment Committee,

Please support HB 5297, An Act Concerning the Multiplicity of Affecting Facilities in Certain Census Block Groups in the State, with additions. As a Connecticut resident, I support making revisions to the state's Environmental Justice Law in order to prevent further pollution in our communities and waterways from new and existing facilities. To facilitate the improvement of our environment under this bill, I support Save the Sound's recommendations including 1) Strengthen current EJ Law by bolstering DEEP and the Siting Council's ability to reject permits in state-identified EJ communities, 2) increase meaningful public notice and participation, 3) expand the definition of EJ to include racial, ethnic, and linguistic factors, 4) clean up contaminated sites.

I urge the Committee to please support HB 5297 with the recommendations.  
Thank you,

**Julia Slaughter**  
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